

one variable species. The female of *oculata* has faint markings and a semicircular reniform. Other specimens with faint markings show a reniform completed outwardly to form the oval attributed to *macroptica*. The type of *macroptica* is characterized by bold markings and an oval reniform. Other boldly marked specimens show a reniform varying from oval to semicircular. There appears no point at which a line of demarcation can be drawn between the two species. Examination of the armature of the foretibiae and the male genitalia confirms this.

Accordingly *Schinia macroptica* Sm. is a synonym of *Schinia oculata* Sm.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Photograph of type of *Schinia macroptica* Sm. by Lyle Hagmann, Rutgers University.

LITERATURE CITED

- Smith, John B. 1900. *Schinia oculata*, Proc. U.S.N.M., Vol. 22, p. 488.
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COLEOPTERA AND DIPTERA REARED FROM OWL NESTS¹

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Nest material from the nest of a burrowing owl, *Speotyto cunicularia hypogaea* (Bonaparte), was collected and examined on May 13, 1953, one mile west of Loma Linda, San Bernardino County, California. The nest site was apparently that of an abandoned rodent (possibly ground squirrel) burrow; the nest itself was located about two feet from the burrow entrance.

Diptera and Coleoptera larvae and pupae were segregated from the debris and reared in cloth covered jars containing sand. The

¹ Contribution from the Department of Entomology, School of Tropical and Preventive Medicine.

excised leg muscles of a freshly killed squirrel were put in the jars as food for the larvae; the colonies were kept at room temperature.

Adults reared from this material were identified as follows:

Diptera

Empididae: *Drapetis* sp., 6 specimens;

Muscidae: *Muscina stabulans* (Fallen), 11 specimens;
Fannia canicularis (L.), 1 female.

Coleoptera

Histeridae: *Saprinus obscurus* Le Conte;

Staphylinidae: *Philonthus sordidus* Grav.; 1 Aleocharinae.

Diptera pupae were taken from the nest of a horned owl, *Bubo virginianus* (Gmelin), on June 1, 1953, 17 miles north of Flagstaff, Arizona. The nest was located in a dead pine snag about 25 feet from the ground. Three fledgling owls escaped from the nest.

The pupae were reared in cloth covered jars at room temperature. The adults were identified as follows:

Calliphoridae: *Protocalliphora* sp., 3 specimens;

Trixoscelidae: *Neossos marylandica* (Malloch), 1 specimen.

It is believed that this is the second time *N. marylandica* has been recorded since its description from Maryland and the first time it has been recorded from Arizona. It was taken once in California from the nests of barn owls by Ryckman (1953).

The authors are indebted to Willis W. Wirth for the identification of the *Drapetis* specimens, to Curtis W. Sabrosky for the identification of the other Diptera, and to H. B. Leech for the identification of the Coleoptera. Many of the Diptera specimens have been retained by the U. S. National Museum, and the Coleoptera have been retained by the California Academy of Sciences.

LITERATURE CITED

- Ryckman, Raymond E. 1953. Diptera reared from barn owl nests. Pan.-Pac. Ent. 29 (1): 60.

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